

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/620,168

Examiner

Nathan M. Nutter

Applicant(s)

KIKUCHI ET AL.

Art Unit

1711

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on ____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 1003
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date ____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: No prior art has been found or presented that either teaches or fairly suggests the manufacture of molded articles for interior car parts comprising a polypropylene resin composition comprising components (A) to (D)

Polypropylene (A):

5.0 to 30 % by mass of a crystalline homopolypropylene having an MFR of 500 to 3,000 g/10 min. determined by a melt flow rate measurement at 230°C under 21.6 N load and a fraction soluble in boiling p-xylene of 6.0 % by mass or less;

Polypropylene (B):

10 to 50 % by mass of a polypropylene comprising a crystalline homopolypropylene (B¹) and an ethylene-propylene copolymer rubber (B²), said ethylene-propylene copolymer rubber (B²) having an intrinsic viscosity of 4.0 to 7.0 dl/g at 135°C in decalin and a content of ethylene of 45 % by mass to 80 % by mass, and said polypropylene (B) comprising said ethylene-propylene copolymer rubber (B²) in an amount of at least 10 % by mass;

Polypropylene (C):

5.0 to 30 % by mass of a polypropylene comprising a crystalline homopolypropylene (C¹) and an ethylene-propylene copolymer rubber (C²) said ethylene-propylene copolymer rubber (C²) having an intrinsic viscosity of 5.0 to 10 dl/g at 135°C in decalin and a content of ethylene of from 25 % by

mass or more to below 45 % by mass, and said polypropylene (C) comprising said ethylene-propylene copolymer rubber (C²) in an amount of at least 10 % by mass;

Ethylene- a -olefin copolymer rubber (D):

5.0 to 40 % by mass of an ethylene- a -olefin copolymer rubber having an MFR of 0.1 to 1.0 g/10 min. as determined by a melt flow rate measurement at 230°C and 21.6 N load, a content of ethylene of 50 % by mass to 80 % by mass, and a comonomer sequencing distribution of 1.0 to 2.0 determined by ¹³C-NMR," as recited and claimed.

The references to Berta, Laughner et al, Yu et al, Pellegatti et al and Jung et al, all newly cited of interest, teach the manufactures of resin blends similar in scope to that recited and claimed herein. Neither reference teaches or suggests the specific combinations of constituents as herein claimed. As such, neither reference is deemed to present a bar to the patentability of the instant claims. Note the Abstracts and disclosures of each cited reference.


Since there are no other outstanding issues with regard to the enablement or clarity of the instant claims, these claims are deemed to contain allowable subject matter.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nathan M. Nutter whose telephone number is 571-272-1076. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James J. Seidleck can be reached on 571-272-1078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Nathan M. Nutter
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1711

nmn

10 January 2005